

Oxenhope

gardening club news

November 2014



Plants with Altitude

Our November talk is by Neil Huntley from Hartside Alpine Nursery of Alston in Cumbria.

He will tell us about his favourite alpines and bring plants to buy.

Anne Collinson sent in this autumnal contribution:

*Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and
bless*

*With fruit the vines that round the thatch-
eaves run...*

...from Keats Ode to Autumn

Some autumn colours may still be around but our Acer's brilliant leaves have fallen, creating pools of colour beneath them.

The Hamamelis leaves have long gone and their flower buds are swelling. Viburnum Bodnantense is covered in its scented pink flowers and the yellow of Winter Jasmine is brightening a dull spot.

And two gems have appeared – amidst all the dying back of autumn and the next flush of flowering shrubs, indicating another season is upon us – Galanthus Reginae Olga. Yes, two snowdrops with dainty white flowers and no leaves yet, just like the Colchicum, or autumn crocus.

These autumn snowdrops originated in the mountains of Greece and were first discovered there in the mid-1870s when their autumn flowering was unique.

They were named after Queen Olga of Greece, the grandmother of the Duke of Edinburgh.

For years we have tried to grow them and perhaps have at last found the right place. Next month several different snowdrops will be flowering but for now we will enjoy and delight in our autumn snowdrops.

Message from the Chair

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2014.

The committee members hope you have enjoyed the inspirational speakers that have visited the club over the last year.

Next year will be 25 years since the founding of the club and the committee has been selecting speakers we hope will interest, stimulate and entertain you in our anniversary year.

The speakers cover a wide range of topics

and are from many parts of the country. Some have been featured in gardening magazines and others have exhibited in garden shows across the country.

We have also arranged three garden visits that we hope you will find stimulating.

The committee wishes you a very happy Christmas and a rewarding and successful gardening New Year.

Sandra

New season highlights

The full programme for 2015 will be revealed when you collect your membership card in January.

Anne Collinson and committee members have been busy planning an exciting season of talks and visits.

Already confirmed:

- Pippa and Andrew Chapman returning in February to update us on the Let's Grow Keighley project
- A visit to the Himalayan Gardens at Grewelthorpe in May
- Plant sale and social evening with cakes in June
- Private evening visit to Dove Cottage garden and nursery, Shibden, in August
- 'Autumnal interest in the Garden' in September given by Michael Myers, lecturer in horticulture at Craven College
- 'So many plants, so little space' in November by Bob Brown from Cotswold Garden Flowers.

We hope to see you at as many events as possible.

Look out for full details appearing on our website as soon as confirmed.

Need a lift to events?

If you would like help with transport to meetings and trips please tell us.

- Jenny Hakney **610599**
- Ruth Shepley **643437**
- Richard Berry **647974**

Don't hesitate to ask for a lift. We will help if at all possible.

2014 remaining date:

20 November

Neil Huntley, Hartside Alpine Nursery of Alston in Cumbria: 'My favourite alpiners' and plants for sale.

Tea and coffee rota



We always welcome helpers for the meetings.

Please ring Ruth or Sue if you can help:

- Ruth Shepley **643437**
- Sue Gibson **642684**

Keeping our club printing costs down

If you could read this newsletter online please email Richard Gibson who will add you to the email circulation list:
richard.gibson@oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk



All phone numbers are 01535 unless stated otherwise.

www.oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk